

PEACE NEWS

For War-Resistance and World-Community

No. 720

April 14, 1950

THREEPENCE

'Hewers of wood . . .'

AFRICANS DESCRIBE RACE-DISCRIMINATION

HOW African natives are exploited, and their social and educational progress deliberately retarded in the interests of the white peoples, was described last Friday week to the Islington Peace Group by two African speakers.

They were Robert Hyndman and Charles Mark Brown, natives from the West Indies and West Africa respectively, representing the League of Coloured Peoples.

"We have not yet learned the fine art of living one with another," said the first speaker, who deputised for the League's secretary, and he praised the Rev. Michael Scott, the pacifist preacher who had put forward to UNO the claims for justice of South African natives.

Calvinism and the lower orders

The Europeans there, he added, were mostly of Boer or Dutch origin and Calvinists in their religious outlook.

They believed that natives were ordained to be the hewers of wood and the drawers of water, an attitude that hindered native progress.

There were two-and-a-half million people of European origin in South Africa, compared with eight million natives, a quarter of a million East Indians and a million "coloureds!"

General Smuts, he alleged, had brought laws which kept the natives as hewers of wood, and his successor, Dr. Malan, had carried these laws to their "logical conclusion."

As many as 26 passes were needed by natives, six of them for constant use.

In 1947, many thousands were imprisoned for infringement of the pass laws, which (said the speaker) were designed to keep natives as cheap labour. Prisoners on farms, he added, worked from 5 a.m. till 6 p.m. In industry, natives could not join the established trades unions, their own unions being powerless.

Wages low, death-rate high

At school, young natives seldom reached the sixth grade and were thus prevented from taking skilled jobs, which went to the Europeans. Where white and native workers were employed on skilled jobs, the rates of pay differed.

Mr. Hyndman then revealed that the death rate in the Rand mines was at least 500 per 1,000, but this did not seem to worry the Government, because of the reserve field of labour.

Alluding to Seretse Khama, the speaker said he had proved himself to be a balanced person, and had shown no bitterness. He was well fitted to be the chosen leader of his people.

Mr. C. Mark Brown told of the early days in West Africa, when 100 million souls were kept in the slavery trade, which was started by Portugal in 1444. There was now a population of two million in Sierra Leone, which became a British colony in 1787. Other territories in British West Africa were Gambia, the Gold Coast, Liberia and Nigeria.

Native v. financial interests

Around 1860, British policy favoured a succession of connections, said Mr. Brown. Colonial development, he maintained, was largely for the benefit of the mother country and the natives were made dependent on British economic and financial policies.

West Africa, he added, had begun to develop long before the white settlers came. The aged had always been cared for, and the people had always been highly religious.

Natives were not given the benefit of foreign competition. At one time Japanese goods were 25 per cent. cheaper on arrival, but import dues made them as expensive as products manufactured in Britain.

Speaking of education, the West African said that only 2.5 per cent. of the children were schooled, a fact brought to light by an investigating committee in 1944.

EIGHT PAGES ON APRIL 28

NEXT week's Peace News will contain six pages. The following week will see the first of the regular eight page issues. Place an order for the enlarged Peace News with your newsagent now. Tell him PN is a national weekly newspaper and can be ordered through his usual trade channels.

GERMANS OPPOSE MILITARISATION

Public opinion ballots show heavy percentage against

FOUR years ago a number of German generals and politicians were hanged for making war. Today, the very people who condemned them to death are courting the "traditional German military spirit" and want to draw Germany into their military alliances.

The German people in general, however, have little sympathy with the idea of being re-militarised, writes Dr. Th. Michaltschew, of the German Section of the War Resisters' International.

During the last year or two many newspapers and periodicals of the three Western zones and Berlin organised opinion ballots on the subject. The results have been encouraging from the pacifist standpoint.

At least 60 per cent. of the answers were against re-militarisation and only about 9 per cent. in favour of it.

I have not much faith in such ballots generally, but in my view the findings of these can be trusted. They were not organised by pacifists or Communists, but by the big press, which is anything but pacifist.

The ballot of which I have exact figures was taken by the "Emid-Institute" on behalf of the British-controlled daily, Die Welt. It was taken in July '49, but things have not materially changed since.

Some 3,000 persons were approached and the questions put were: "Would you like to

do not base their opinion on personal experience as men do.

Some two months ago the German radio of the British zone started an opinion ballot among listeners on re-militarisation, and the overwhelming number of the answers were against it. One broadcast consisted of a selection of the letters received and I was greatly impressed by the outright pacifist spirit expressed in many of them.

Allies' lost opportunity

I should like to add a few comments on this matter which may help towards better understanding of the attitude of the German people as a whole and sections of it in particular.

At the end of the war the German people were cured of their chauvinistic infatuation. After the six horrible years of total war the time-honoured Prussian military tradition crumbled and broke. At the landing in Normandy millions of Germans sighed with relief.

But the Allies' policy has brought a tragic disappointment. They want to turn Germany into a bulwark against Communism—i.e., they want the German people, to do that for which the German generals and politicians were hanged at Nuremberg.

The Germans were cured of Nazism and militarism, but had no time to put new political and moral values in the place of the old ones. They needed leadership and example; the Allies failed utterly to provide them with either. Their stupid policy poisoned German democracy at its roots by setting it a bad example.

Allies courting German generals?

I am absolutely certain that the opponents of war and re-militarisation outnumber by far the supporters of them. But numbers are deceptive. The anti-militarists are mostly lukewarm, inactive and disunited, whereas the underground militarists seem to be very active and united.

Further, if rumours are trustworthy, both the Allies and the Adenauer Government are already courting the former German generals.

Again, in spite of lip service to peace and reconciliation by all parties, real opposition to militarism lies mainly with the opposition parties, especially the Social Democrats (Labour Party) and the Centrum Party.

There is in this country a widespread indifference to ideas and ideals; nevertheless, I am not pessimistic.

Garry Davis' appeal, for instance, found many very ready ears in Germany, and this is one of the proofs, to my mind, that there are many latent forces here which wait to be awakened.

I pin my faith especially to the trades unions, the co-operative movement and the youth organisations, which though by no means pacifist, are strongly opposed to war and re-militarisation.

Quaker CO becomes Britain's leading physician

By HUBERT W. PEET

LORD MORAN, President of the Royal College of Physicians until last week, though not a pacifist, has earned the gratitude of conscientious objectors and others for his outspoken criticism of conscription and its effects. It is interesting, therefore, that he should now have been succeeded in the Presidency of that august medical body by a Quaker, Dr. W. Russell Brain, D.M., F.R.C.P. Dr. Brain once told me that it was his experiences in the Friends' Ambulance Unit in World War I which turned his thoughts to medicine.

Born 54 years ago in Reading and educated at Mill Hill School and New College, Oxford, Russell Brain began to read for a legal career. Then came the war, and as a CO he joined the FAU. He never served abroad, but for three years worked mostly in the X-ray departments of hospitals which the FAU helped to staff at Haxby Road, York, and the King George Hospital, London. In 1918 he threw up the law and began to study medicine at Oxford and at the London Hospital, and today he is one of our leading neurologists.

Those who may think he is "just a high-

Memorial Services to Dr. Alex Wood CAMBRIDGE

The service to be held in St. Columba's Presbyterian Church, Downing Street, will be at 3 p.m. on Friday, April 21, not on April 20 as announced last week.

LONDON

The service at Friends' House, Euston Road, N.W.1., will be held at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19.

Tributes from leading pacifists to Dr. Alex Wood, distinguished scholar, former physics lecturer at Cambridge and Chairman of Peace News Ltd., appear on page three.

ILP alone in firm stand for peace

THE only forthright pacifist resolutions passed at any of the Easter political conferences were those of the ILP.

They called on the Government to declare that Britain would be neutral in any future world war.

The conference also called on the Government to abolish conscription and, "by pursuing a Socialist policy, appeal to the organised workers of other countries to refuse to allow their governments to lead them into an armaments race."

The chairman, David Gibson of Glasgow, said that the re-arming of Germany by any or all of the Powers would be the greatest and bloodiest betrayal in history.

CHILD VICTIMS OF EAST-WEST TENSION

THE Rev. Clifford Macquire, General Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, speaking at a meeting arranged by the For at Saffron Walden recently, deplored the political capital that was made during the Berlin Air Lift over a shortage of milk in Western Germany. There was a deadlock between the Eastern and Western countries—"to the complete and absolute neglect of the children."

He said that a crisis was good for Christians. "It makes them dig down deep into their faith and stand on its foundations. That time is now," he declared.

NEGRO'S BOOK BANNED IN COLONIES

THE latest product of a Negro author, George Padmore, has, by arbitrary ban, been prohibited from Kenya, Rhodesia, Uganda and Gold Coast, writes M. Joseph-Mitchell, General and Travelling Secretary of the League of Coloured Peoples, to the Manchester Guardian.

This, he points out, violates article 19 of the Declaration of Rights to which Britain has subscribed, asserting freedom of expression.

"brow" will find in him a man of great intellectual gifts who is able to be friendly and simple. He is a member and an Elder of the Kingston-on-Thames Meeting of the Society of Friends, and in 1944 he gave the annual Quaker lecture known as the Swarthmore Lecture. He chose as his subject "Man, Society and Religion" and gave as its sub-title "An Essay in Bridge Building." Incidentally, in this lecture he suggested to his fellow-Quakers that they perhaps sometimes tended to underestimate the importance of thought in religious life. This provoked that witty Friend and relief worker, William R. Hughes, to four lines, which all pacifists might take to heart:

"If we give thought no proper part
Then semi-Quakers we remain;
Besides a trembling of the heart,
We need a rustle of the brain."

Dr. Russell Brain is a great Dickensian—among a good many other things. He wrote an illuminating essay in the *London Hospitals Gazette* on the nervous illnesses from which many of Dickens' characters obviously suffered, clearly diagnosable, he declares, by the accuracy with which Dickens described them and their reactions.

PEACE NEWS

3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4
Stamford Hill 2262

Available from Newsagents and Bookstalls,
or direct from the above address.

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Great Britain and abroad: Three months,
4s. 4d.; six months, 8s. 8d.; twelve
months 16s. 6d.

RESOLUTIONS

THE Easter Conferences produced no signs worth mentioning of an advance towards peace.

The one honourable exception, which proved the rule, was the ILP, which called for a declaration of Britain's neutrality in the event of any world conflict.

The Co-operative Party did pass a resolution pledging support for unspecified schemes for the control and reduction of armaments and the outlawing of weapons of mass destruction. But it made that even more meaningless by overwhelmingly defeating a motion calling for drastic reduction of defence expenditure.

*

There is no such thing as the reduction and control of armaments; while they exist they must always increase. That is the pons asinorum of international politics.

On what possible basis could nations, which intend to fight each other "if necessary," and arm because they fear each other, agree to limit the extent of their arms? If they did so, it could only be because they had ceased to fear each other—in which case the arms wouldn't be necessary.

The same argument applies to those funny resolutions about outlawing the worst weapons. Do any of the people who pass them really believe that a pact to outlaw any particular weapon would be kept once war started?

If in fact any particular horror was not used it would only be because its possessor feared its recoil upon himself.

*

After the last two wars it is astounding that there are still people left who have not realised that the phrase "rules of war" is a contradiction in terms.

We live now in an age in which war has at least reached its logical extreme: its divorce from all considerations of morality and humanity is now complete.

There were rules of war, once. But in those days the men who fought each other shared a common belief in the judgment of God. In such times pacts and agreements might have had some weight. Today they are not worth their paper and ink.

Even if, for some unimaginable reason, the nations agreed to return to bows and arrows, once war started there would be a simultaneous rush to produce H-bombs.

Or more likely—both sides would be discovered to have been secretly making and storing them all the time. That is more consistent with the morality of modern militarism.

*

These pious resolutions with no conviction behind them only encourage governments in the war preparations.

No public resolutions, in fact, can be effective unless they arise from another kind of resolution—the private and personal resolution of a sufficient number of individuals that they will have nothing to do with war.

The hope of the present situation, therefore, lies in the growing uneasiness of the conscience of mankind; for we do not know what may suddenly issue from a growing moral revolt.

Dick Sheppard's method of the personal pledge has so far failed, but it is still the right method.

For governments will cease piling up weapons only when they see there are enough people who will refuse to make or use them.

"... Good Lord, deliver us"

A Commentary by **CHRISTABEL McLEAN**

NOWADAYS the Litany is not so often said or sung in the services of the Church of England as it was when I was a child.

In those days it would sometimes appear as an interminable penance which one might scarcely survive and at others as a kind of spell-binding magic from which one emerged clean and strong and above all safe. Nor do I now attend the church services as regularly as I did in childhood. But on Good Friday this year the Litany was said during the morning service and we repeated the great solemn appeal for help and for deliverance.

I could see my son sitting in the choir and wondering what thoughts went on behind that bland forehead and impassive face as he and the other little boys listened to the priest and joined in the responses—"From plague, pestilence and famine..."

Hearing the words for the first time for perhaps a year, they struck me with a sense of their appalling fitness. Well, indeed, may we respond: "Good Lord, deliver us."

The Quakers' battle

I HAVE been reading an account in the Bulletin of the American Friends Service Committee of a battle fought against plague and pestilence at the other side of the world. It was being fought against what, to me at least, seemed like quite hopeless odds by a small group of AFSC members in a war-stricken area of China.

Deliverance from the scourge of disease does appear to be surely on the way. One of the truly heartening trends to be generally discerned today is the steady progress being made in every field of medicine and—more important still—in the promotion of public health services.

The heroic and selfless work of individual men and women like those of the FSC, of the general practitioner, of the research worker or of the nurse, is to be seen against the great and splendid backdrop of this general advancement which displays the remarkable changes in vital statistics and the spectacular discoveries of the last century and which is enriched today by the establishment, in the World Health Organisation, of a piece of international machinery by means of which world resources of human skill and of medical preparations and equipment shall be immediately available.

SYBIL MORRISON has contributed the third of the Peace Pledge Union's series of leaflets "Your Questions Answered," the text of which is printed below. Copies of these leaflets for free distribution may be had from Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1. Contributions towards postage and printing will be welcomed. The fourth leaflet, "Does not the Bible approve of war?" is by Stuart Morris and will be printed in Peace News next week.

able to any people threatened by plague and pestilence.

The machinery probably does not yet work as smoothly as it should; perhaps it is not yet really finished; it may possibly be misused or abused. But it is there; and that is a real achievement for us all.

It is an individual responsibility

BUT sometimes one is tempted to rely too much on organisations and on machinery and on the magic words "international" or "global" to solve of themselves the problems created by society. And here by "society" is meant the whole complex framework of the human community.

In the fight against disease and against all forms of bodily ill and suffering we have the clearest possible reminder, should we need it, that ultimately every problem and every act are the responsibility of individual persons. The backcloth of which I wrote is made up of an infinity of single human efforts, of individual suffering and of individual labour and love. The massive and impressive machine is absolutely dependent upon the integrity and devotion of the men and women who have built it up and of which it is indeed composed. In the end it will always be a single and personal matter either of suffering or of healing.

Against terrific obstacles

IT is not easy without quoting at length from "Medical Work in China's Battle Area" to describe the conditions under which the AFSC carried out 9 months intensive work. They were covering an area of about 36 square miles and they had to work in this war-ravaged area without any of what we should regard as the basic and essential requirements of medical work—without adequate equipment, without proper space and without safe water; and with only the most primitive lighting facilities. Under these conditions the little group dealt with outbreaks of smallpox and with the threat of cholera and serious epidemics of dysentery; they rescued children whom they would find huddled together in a ruined hut in a supposedly deserted village and dying of smallpox and pneumonia; they dealt, at all hours of the day and night, with the war-wounded who came or were carried to their improvised "wards." With bullet or shrapnel wounds some were brought in having received no first aid; and many of them would die. Others had been given treatment which had only made their hope of survival fainter, dressings of clay or dry earth or dirty rags which had grown into the gangrenous flesh.

Where "enemies" work together

WHILE meeting every emergency with improvised means, the AFSC found it possible to establish regular clinics to which patients came who had never before received medical treatment in their lives.

WARS, BULLIES AND PACIFISTS

Q A war to save a small nation from being over-run by an aggressor nation is surely justifiable. Would a pacifist just stand aside and let a bully ill-treat a helpless person?

A This very usual question is based on two false assumptions:

- (1) that an attack by an aggressive individual creates the same situation as an attack by an aggressive nation, and
- (2) that violence in the individual case, and war in the nation's case, are successful methods of dealing with the situation.

It is true that there are violent and cruel people in the world, some of them, perhaps, not quite sane, who assault and injure others for no obvious reason. These cases, fortunately, are rare, and faced with a situation where there was a completely unprovoked attack on a helpless person, the natural human instinct would probably be to meet violence with violence.

Actually, in individual cases, the circumstances would always be different, the causes dissimilar, and non-violent intervention might be effective. Whatever the answer may be for each separate situation of this kind, it is obvious that violence cannot be the final and certain solution, for if, in the end, the bully should be victorious and nothing is proved except that he was the stronger, he will continue to rely upon his brute strength, and the helpless victim will not be saved, either then, or on some future occasion. To try to equal his violence may, in the individual case, be a brave and heroic act in itself, but it does not resolve the problem, for it is only to argue in effect, that evil can be overcome by using the same evil means.

Such an individual action would be spontaneous and instinctive and there would probably be no time to take into consideration whether it would be successful or not. On that count alone it has no analogy with war, and in fact, this hypothetical situation has nothing at all in common with organising millions of people to kill each other, which is war, nor has it any real similarity with the issues between nations which result in war.

Wars have been fought for a number of reasons, chiefly for gain, or for power. The Roman and Norman conquests of Britain were for gain, and in the past, power and riches were considered something for which nations should fight and be proud of their

proress. British governments, long after the Roman and Norman conquests of their island were forgotten, never disguised the fact that they annexed strategic positions all over the world in order to keep control of trade and trade routes.

But in recent years there have been some stirrings of public conscience about colonial policy, and even those British citizens who firmly believed that colonies should be occupied by British armed forces, had to be assured that this was entirely for the good of the natives, and undertaken at great risk and considerable sacrifice. "The white man's burden" was freely accepted and honestly believed.

There can, of course, be no doubt that in the history of Empires there have always been heroic individuals, selfless and honest humanitarians, but that is not to say that colonisation is undertaken for humanitarian and unselfish reasons. It is clear, however, that ordinary people must be induced to think so.

In the same way, there is considerable uneasiness about the methods of total war, and the "common man" will not be persuaded to go to war unless he believes it is for some altruistic reason, or his own country is attacked; it must be either to save some weak nation from a "bully" nation, or to save his own "women and children." It has been said that no government dare go to war without the will of their people behind them, and this is probably true, especially nowadays. Therefore, it has been necessary to use for propaganda the analogy of the aggressive brute attacking a child or weaker person.

The truth is that wars are not fought in order to protect helpless people from bullies, though normal kindhearted Britishers like to believe it, and governments see to it that they do believe it. Governments go to war if they think the interests of their nationals are threatened, and not to save the interests of other nations, unless those interests are closely linked with their own. This does not apply only to British governments, and the blame for a situation in which war becomes inevitable is never all on one side.

In war, the "bully" is not one person but a whole nation of people, most of them entirely innocent of any aggressive intention, but led by propaganda, in exactly the same way as the "rescuer" nation, to believe that they will be attacked or squeezed out of existence if they don't strike first.

Tuberculosis, syphilis, dysentery and other dreadful diseases had held sway unchallenged and had become rampant during the years of civil war.

The Communist Government had "worked in close co-operation" with the AFSC and had given them "every kind of help and encouragement"; and when their agreed six months term was ending they were invited by the government to remain for a further three months. Students were sent to them to be given at least a little elementary training so that the work of the clinics and the first steps towards at least a primitive attempt at public health services need not lapse. It is, I think, an added blessing to this story that it tells of Americans working for and with people whom some of their countrymen hold to be potential enemies.

Famine the real enemy

"FROM famine" ... over and over again the scientists have been telling us that the first and true enemy of our safety and of the future of mankind is not the threat of war but the threat of famine. And they have told us too that if the human race continues to increase at its present rate only a miracle of wisdom and constructive, concerted action can save the whole human population from hunger and from famine. In the meantime there is almost always famine somewhere in the world; and the bitter thing is that it is not something which strikes suddenly and without warning, but can be foreseen and accurately predicted. Yet we still have not found it possible to take those steps which would at least have helped to save many thousands of lives which are being lost at this moment—for example in North China.

Most important project of our time

IF it had been possible to accept the plan put forward by Lord Boyd Orr, then it is likely that the worst suffering by famine could already be prevented. It is not a simple matter, not just a question of sending relief parcels on a large scale; it is a big and complex economic and social undertaking. It is in fact probably the most important single project of our time and, among international plans, the one most likely to bring peace.

"And from sudden death..."

AMONG the newscuttings before me is a stop press paragraph from the Daily Mail of March 30, reporting the decision of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to postpone indefinitely a project to develop power for industrial purposes so as to give "greater emphasis to the hydrogen bomb." The full verse of the Litany from which I have quoted above runs: "From plague, pestilence and famine, from battle, murder and from sudden death, deliver us, good Lord."

Most of them desire only the security of full employment, a home, freedom to love, marry, have children, and enjoy themselves in their own different ways; these are the victims on both sides; millions of them, dead, mutilated and blinded, starved and driven mad. This is war.

And it bears no resemblance whatever to the "bully-child" analogy. It would be irrelevant and pointless if a man were seen assaulting a child to rush off and knock down his mother or his wife or one of his children, but if the comparison with war is followed to its logical conclusion that is what it would mean.

If attacked personally it may be natural to try to defend oneself by using physical force, but in war the word "defence" cannot bear that interpretation. The only defence is to prevent war.

(Continued on page three, column one)

Where the money comes from

IN a letter to Peace News last week, Vera Brittain may have given the impression that the paper was, in part, subsidised by the Peace Pledge Union. Peace News is, of course, the organ of the PPU but it operated quite independently from the movement and is not in receipt of any financial assistance apart from the donations which readers send to the Forward Fund.

We take this opportunity of mentioning that fact, so as to impress it upon our readers that we depend almost entirely on their personal help and donations.

The enlargement of PN from 6 to 8 pages for an experimental period of six months will be made through the use of the balance of capital remaining after the closing down of the Sheppard Press which was established with money donated for that purpose.

To continue the enlarged paper beyond that period we shall need a concerted effort on the part of our readers to increase the circulation.

To aid this, therefore, we shall need individual contributions to our Forward Fund more than ever. You have been warned!

THE EDITOR

Contributions since March 24: £12 8s. 4d.
Total for 1950: £115 15s. 3d.
Please make cheques, etc., payable to the Peace News Ltd., and address them to the Accountant, Peace News, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4.

ALEX WOOD

April 14, 1950, PEACE NEWS—3

Tributes to an outstanding Christian pacifist

From VERA BRITTAIN

Chairman of the Peace Pledge Union.

AS the present Chairman of the Peace Pledge Union, it is my privilege to pay tribute to the third of the three distinguished past Chairmen whom our movement has lost since 1937.

Following Dick Sheppard and George M. L. Davies into the unknown future where some of us believe that their work is continued and glorified, Dr. Alex Wood will be deeply mourned by all who are left here to carry on the struggle, and not least by his successor in the office to which he brought a brilliant mind, a wise judgment, a rare sense of humour, a sterling integrity and a distinguished academic reputation. It is doubtful whether most members of the various pacifist committees which Alex Wood guided with such good-humoured skill ever fully realised how distinguished a man he was. Idealistic movements are apt to take their leaders for granted while benefiting from their achievements, and a scientist, in addition, tends to be justly appreciated only by his colleagues. They alone are qualified to estimate his work, which has not the same popular appeal as attainments in music, literature, the law and the stage.

Dr. Alex Wood, born on May 8, 1879, was a D.Sc. of Glasgow University, and in 1907 became a Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. From 1910 until 1940 he was a tutor of the college and continued as Cambridge University Lecturer in Experimental Physics until 1944. He also published a number of scientific text books, including *The Physical Basis of Music*, *Sound Waves and Their Uses*, *Planning for Good Acoustics*, and similar studies. In

1928 he gave the Christmas lecture of the Royal Institution.

The long Puritan tradition of Emmanuel, dating back to the period of William Dell, one of Cromwell's Chaplains, who studied theology there in the 1620's, made the college an ideal background for a Don of Alex Wood's temperament. He gave little time to social functions at Cambridge and, characteristically, found his recreation in sailing. But that recreation was always very limited, for his sense of duty, not only as pacifist but as Christian Socialist, drove him into political and municipal life.

In 1929 he was Labour candidate for Cambridge University, and in 1931 and the two following elections for the Borough of Cambridge. His lack of success at the polls made no difference to his disinterested work for the town. Perhaps his most exacting service in this field was his Chairmanship of the Regional Planning Committee and the Borough Housing Committee, where he had to hold the balance between the political views represented there and the conflicting claims of agitated home-seekers.

In 1940, Alex Wood brought his scientific reputation and his public prestige to the Chairmanship of the Peace Pledge Union. He had no illusions about the possible cost to himself of such an office at such a time, and it was not long before the courage which led him to accept it was abundantly tested. On May 23, 1940, at the same hour as the Memorial Service held that day for George Lansbury in Westminster Abbey, the now-famous "Poster Trial" began at Bow Street Police Court. This case, officially described as "The Police v. Alexander Wood, Maurice Rowntree, Stuart Morris, John Barclay, Ronald Smith and Sidney Todd," arose from the exhibition of a PPU Poster: "Wars will cease when men refuse to fight. What are YOU going to do about it?"

I saw Alex Wood at Bow Street that morning. He was pale and inwardly distressed, for the poster was two years old and the prosecution had been unexpected; but he gave his evidence with unshaken composure and accepted without resentment or complaint the various undeserved humiliations and misrepresentations that followed. During the prolonged hearing of the case, which concluded with the "binding-over" of the defendants only on June 6, the Press denied him even his academic prefix and disparagingly referred to him as "Wood."

Undeterred by this inauspicious beginning, Alex Wood carried on as Chairman right through the war until 1946. To his unswerving moral courage, he added a physical valour that repudiated in wartime the relative security of Cambridge, to which his advancing age and University status entitled him. I remember sharing the platform with him at Whitefield's Tabernacle during a blitz period which made Tottenham Court Road an unhealthy neighbourhood, and the railway line from Liverpool Street to Cambridge unhealthy still. He brought the same impervious sense of duty to all PPU Committees; I do not recall his missing one owing to accelerated sirens or "incidents" on the LNER.

His service to the PPU did not cease in 1946; he became the Chairman of Peace News Directors, who will find it difficult to fill his post and impossible to replace his wisdom and humour. For his wife and four daughters, to whom there is no adequate way of expressing our deep sympathy, his loss will be irreparable; and it is hard to say whether his University or the pacifist movement will miss him most. To none of the great men and women whom I have known could the words of their Master be more appropriately addressed: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

From Dr. C. E. RAVEN

Former Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University. President of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

IT is impossible in a few lines to pay tribute to a friend of forty years' standing.

To say that Alex Wood was one of the most complete Christians that I have known (John Oman said of him, "When I say a Christian I mean one with whom to see is to act"); to say that no single person since I have known Cambridge has done so much for the town and its folk (boys' classes and clubs, housing and all forms of social welfare, the Council and his Aldermanship, his church and all the churches); to say that he has trained our great physicists and been the "star" lecturer in the Cavendish—in addition to his special work on acoustics; to say that he has presented the case for Christian pacifism more consistently and generously than any of us; to say all this is to leave the essential secret of his quality undisclosed.

I can only thank God for what he has meant to me and to multitudes of us.

From LORD DARWEN

Hon. Treasurer of the National Peace Council.

BY the death of Alex Wood the National Peace Council has lost one of its best and most hard working officers.

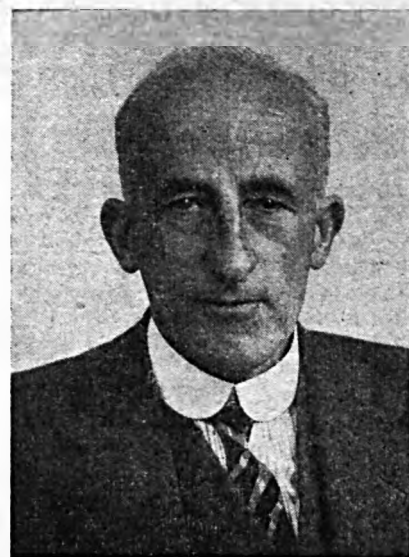
He was Chairman of the Executive, and this involved responsibility for the whole of the work of the organisation. He was also Chairman of the East-West Commission, and the ideal leader of our deputations.

He was a man of strong principle, yet with a fundamental humility, so that he respected the principles of others. He had a great gift of seizing the salient points in a problem, and of putting his case clearly in a few words. He was a hard worker, never sparing himself, but always ready to help others. These qualities added to his charm of friendliness, made him the great leader that he was.

From GERALD BAILEY, M.A.

Former Director of the National Peace Council. Chairman of the International Liaison Committee of Organisations for Peace.

I KNEW Alex Wood intimately only in the last six years or so. Perhaps with some regret now since he was already burdened with responsibilities, I brought



him into a central position in the National Peace Council with which he had had little previous contact though he had been a leading figure in the pacifist movement, as others can relate, for many years.

His own pacifism was unequivocal though unaggressive but he entered into the somewhat complex work of a body like the NPC with requisite compromises with a characteristic understanding and faithfulness, invariably bringing to its debates and decisions an illuminating mind and a genial temper and—not at all rarely—most welcome flashes of humour. We can very poorly afford to lose him from the work for peace at this time.

From Rev. PATRICK FIGGIS

Former General Secretary of the Peace Pledge Union.

I ONLY knew Alex Wood for a few years towards the end of his life. I am not therefore qualified to write an appreciation of him. But as General Secretary of the PPU for three years, 1943 to 1946, while he was Chairman, I got to know him well; and I am glad to add my testimony of admiration and affection to that of others.

What are my lasting impressions of him? That he was never late for a meeting. That he found time and energy for a quite extraordinary amount of work. That, however trying the situation, he was always master of himself. That he was scrupulously fair: for that reason he was an unusually good Chairman. That he was a great encourager of younger men. That no occasion was too small for him to give of his best. That whether he was talking of religion, politics, pacifism or physics, he always "knew his stuff."

In particular I recall the telegram that he remembered, while on holiday, to send for the polling day in the South Poplar by-election of 1942; his recent admirable statement of the Christian pacifist position on the wireless; his disregard of what his Cambridge colleagues may have thought of his pacifism in wartime; and the prayers one morning that I was privileged to share with him and his wife in their home.

That is where his secret lay. That is why he was a man of outstanding character and achievement.

I owe him much, and will always be grateful for the inspiration of his memory.

WARS BULLIES & PACIFISTS

(Continued from page two)

ence in modern war is attack, at the most violent level, on helpless people.

There is no glory, no decency, no humanity possible in such defence; imagination, in fact, has to be quieted and smothered by the use of such phrases as "bombed out," "tons of shipping lost," "bombers missing," for it would not do for people to think in terms of fathers and sons and husbands drowned in the bitter seas, of babies and children so helplessly dependent upon the actions of adults burned and maimed and dead, of young men hardly out of school crashing to their deaths in flaming aeroplanes.

The famous "bully" analogy is used in the same way as these phrases to prevent people from thinking out for themselves the real causes of wars, and the consequences, morally and physically, of using evil means in an attempt to defeat evil. There is only one golden rule, and it is one on which individuals and nations could, and should base their decisions and their actions: "As ye would that men should do to you, do ye likewise unto them," not necessarily for religious reasons, but because, touch it where you will, it rings true.

Notes for your Diary

Friday, April 21

CHICHESTER: 7 p.m. Speaker: Hugh Faulkner, FoR.
READING: 7.30 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Church St.; Rev. Clifford H. Macquaire, FoR.

Saturday, April 22

HULL: 3.30 p.m. Peace Centre, Bond St.; Area Conference: Hugh Faulkner, FoR.
STOW-ON-THE-WOLD: Hill Place School; Area Conference: Rev. Clifford H. Macquaire, FoR.

Sunday, April 23

BIRMINGHAM: 9.30 a.m. The Beehive, Bishops Gate St., 15; John Holland: "Gandhi"; Society of Friends.

Monday, April 24

TOWER HILL: 1 p.m. Open-air meeting: Gwyneth Anderson and Bryan Anstey, PPU.
BIRMINGHAM: 7 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Bull St.; Wilfred Wellock on "Peace? They Said Yes"; Report of World Pacifist Meeting in India: PPU.

Wednesday, April 26

EXETER: 7.30 p.m. Friends Meeting House; Hugh Faulkner, FoR.

Thursday, April 27

LONDON, W.C.1: 7 p.m. Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1; Meeting of Non-Violence Group; PPU members welcome.
LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m. Lincoln's Inn Fields; Open-air Meeting; Sybil Morrison, PPU.
WESTWOOD HO: 6 p.m. Victoria House; Hugh Faulkner, FoR.

Saturday, April 29—Sun., April 30

LONDON, E.C.4: Commencing 2 p.m. Saturday. Beaver Hall, Garlick Hill, Cannon St.; PPU Annual General Meeting; Admission by ticket only, 1s. from Dick Sheppard House.
LONDON, S.W.5: International Week-end Conference on World Government and World Citizenship. International Peoples College, 10 South Bolton Gardens, S.W.5.

Wednesday, May 3

DULWICH: 8 p.m. Dulwich Grove Congregational Church; "Peace through Religion"; PPU.

Saturday, May 13—Sunday, May 14

LONDON, S.W.5: International Week-end Conference on The United Nations and its Agencies; International Peoples College, 10 South Bolton Gardens, S.W.5.

Saturday, May 27—Sunday, May 28

LONDON, S.W.5: International Week-end Conference on Russia; International Peoples College, 10 South Bolton Gardens, S.W.5.

Saturday, May 27—Monday, May 29

HAYWARDS HEATH: Weekend Conference (lunchtime, Saturday to teatime, Monday), at Elmstead, to discuss the ways in which the pacifist message may be presented through the Churches, the Press, Political Parties, Trade Unions and other organisations. Full cost of Conference 35s., including 5s. booking fee which should accompany applications and is not returnable. Accommodation limited to 80; PPU.

PLEASE HAND THIS TO YOUR NEWSAGENT

Please deliver PEACE NEWS to me weekly

To M.....
(Newsagent's name)

Name.....

Address.....

Note to Newsagent—PEACE NEWS is published weekly as a national newspaper at the retail price of 3d. It is obtainable by your wholesaler at the usual rates from the Publishers, at 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

LATEST TIME for copy: Monday before publication.

TERMS: Cash with order, 3d. per word, minimum 2s. 6d. (Box No. 6d. extra). Please don't send stamps in payment, except for odd pence. Maximum length: 50 words. Address for Box No. replies: Peace News, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4.

When corresponding with PN about an advertisement, quote its first words, classification, and date. We reserve the right to hold over advertisements and to limit the frequency of continuing advertisements.

MEETINGS

LONDON, W.C.1: 8.15 p.m. The Caravan, its history and work. The New History Society. Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

WEIGH HOUSE Church, Duke Street, W.1. (Bond St. Tube). Sunday evenings at 7. The Gospel of Peace! Social hour follows.

ACCOMMODATION

BIDEFORD, DEVON. Holiday accommodation. Private house, good food, Dalhousie, Chudleigh Avenue.

COMFORTABLE BED-SITTING room given free to middle aged lady. Great animal lover. Box 149.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS. Vegetarian Guest House. Rest and comfort amid beautiful scenery. Arthur and Catherine Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, Near Matlock. Tel: Ambergate 44.

A PEACEFUL holiday at Mount Avalon, Glastonbury, Somerset; Vegetarian; Beautifully situated and convenient for excursions in this lovely part of the West Country. S.A.E. for brochure to Arthur Mann.

EDUCATIONAL

SPEAKING & WRITING lessons (correspondence, visit) 5s. Dorothy Matthews, BA, 82 Primrose Hill Road, London, N.W.3. PRIMROSE 5685.

FOR SALE & WANTED

BARGAIN. MODERN proprietary 16 ft. caravan 1950 model, 4-berth caravan. End kitchen. All gas, equipped. Suitable Home or Holidays. New £285. Box 157.

ECONOMY LABELS for re-using envelopes. Large, good quality, cheap; publishing Peace News. Post free, for 1s., 50; 1s., 5d., 100; 15s., 1,000. Also plain economy labels 1s., 100; 5s., 6d., 1,000 post free. Peace News, Ltd., 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

LITERATURE, &c.

QUAKERISM Information and Literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London.

PERSONAL

MARRIAGE BUREAU offers unrivalled personal service. Nation-wide clientele. Mary Blair (Room 59), 147 Holborn, E.C.1.

SITUATIONS VACANT

LIFE ENDOWMENT, house purchase, motor insurance. Well-known Company's agent welcomes enquiries. H. J. Snewin, 11a, St. Andrews Road, London, E.13.

SCHOOL FOR maladjusted children near London requires at once: (1) Qualified young single male teacher for re-educational group, (2) Housemother, (3) Gardener-Handyman able to do minor repairs. Interested in children. Replies to the Principal: Hever Warren School, Edenbridge, Kent.

SITUATIONS AND WORK WANTED

GERMAN. YOUNG bilingual writer translates and teaches. Very moderate fees. H.M.B., 36 Ormonde Court, London, S.W.15. Putney 0263.

FIRST-CLASS duplicating, etc. Mahab Eyles, 29 Rokesby Avenue, London, N.1. MOU 1701.

MISCELLANEOUS

WAR RESISTERS' International welcomes gifts of foreign stamps an undamaged air mail covers. Please send to WRI, Lansbury House, 88 Park Avenue, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex.

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS
Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., W.C.1

CONSCRIPTION DEBATE

Use £780,000,000 Arms Bill for better things

"THAT this House considers that Military Conscription should now be Abolished" was the motion passed by 31 votes to 21 against at the Debating Society of The Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, N.W.1, on April 3.

The motion was moved by K. M. Morris and seconded by G. Deacon and opposed by D. Franklin, B.A. and J. P. Sassoon.

Mr. Morris pointed out the ineffectiveness of conscription under present conditions. The period spent in the army by a conscript, whilst disrupting his whole life, does not allow time to acquire a knowledge of the ever rapidly changing equipment and methods of warfare.

The £780 million spent on the Forces could well be used for better things. This figure did not include the earning capacity of the men in civilian life lost when they were in the Forces. Another thing against Conscription was the demoralising effect on the young men.

It was a well-known fact that the main assets of a "good soldier" were his ability to "scrounge" or "knock off" any property he required and a knowledge of all the methods of "dodging the column." All these points left out the great moral question.

"Better method" plea by opposition

Opposing, Mr. Franklin said that the question of whether we could afford the Armed Forces did not arise because we must have certain things in ratio of their necessity and the Forces were essential to our security as a Nation. The method of conscription was not under discussion and quite possibly a better method of selective "call up" could be found. He did not think it wise nor necessary to give a long period of armed training to a man who would be doing office or other work for which he was better suited.

Seconding the Motion, Mr. Deacon said he thought it was wrong to conscript men and not women.

If Britain must have Fighting Forces surely the best idea was to push up production of goods and equipment which were the real strength of a nation. The required training could be given in the Territorial Army or Home Guard.

Mr. Sassoon, for the opposition, said the world was definitely divided into two opposing factions and we could only frighten off an aggressor by strong Forces. Britain must be prepared to play her part in the defence of Central Europe. It was the duty of every man to defend himself and his country and so conscription should stay.

Importance of moral issue

When the chairman, R. L. Weisweiler, opened the discussion, Mr. E. A. Dunn said that in moving the motion Mr. Morris had avoided the real and vital issue, namely that of moral grounds. It is wrong to take a young man, make up his mind for him and tell him he must kill for this side.

A plea was made to the older men to remember that young men were in British prisons because they refuse to take part in actions they knew to be wrong, and also that no one might leave without recording his vote for the motion thereby showing that it was recognised in the College that conscription was morally wrong.

A.J.J.

WINSTON CHURCHILL, IN WAR AND PEACE

A new critical biography by
EMRYS HUGHES M.P.

250 Pages Illustrated. Price 2s. 6d.

UNITY PUBLISHING CO., LTD.
26 Civic Street, Glasgow, C.4

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ HOUSMANS BOOKSHOP

recommend these new pamphlets:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| ATOMIC ENERGY , by Dr. Alex Wood. | 6d. |
| The course of negotiations for control. | |
| THE HYDROGEN BOMB | 1s. |
| The Atomic Scientists Association on the moral and technical problems involved. | |
| A NEW STRATEGY FOR PEACE | 1s. |
| Lord Boyd Orr, Ritchie Calder and others at the St. Cergue International Conference. | |
| THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION | 1s. |
| Some Quaker proposals for peace. | |
| PEACE BY PIECES | 6d. |
| International Co-operation in practice. | |
| POWER OR PEACE | 6d. |
| Wilfred Wellock on Western Industrialism and a policy for peace. | |

ADD POSTAGE: 11d. each, 1d. for each extra

HOUSMANS BOOKSHOP LIMITED
(the pacifist booksellers)

3 Blackstock Road London N.4

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Published from 3 Blackstock Rd., London, N.4, by
Peace News Ltd. Printed by W. F. Clifford Printing
Co. Ltd. (T.U.) London, N.16.

Letters to the Editor

Let us re-make history

THAT you are able to increase Peace News to eight pages is, in itself, a very welcome item of peace news.

There is certainly no lack of fresh material in the international situation as it develops from day to day; and to bring the full weight of its meaning home to the conscience of the community is the biggest and the best job that any newspaper can set itself.

More and more the position, as I see it, is this: that we as a nation have not got our heads right for peace-making, because our hearts are not right. Because we have not yet repented of our use of the Atom Bomb, and of indiscriminate slaughter of whole populations for the winning of the last war, because the burden of that guilt is still upon us, we are incapable of making a full moral refusal of employing them ever again, or adding the Hydrogen Bomb to those other patent soul-destroying saviours of mankind, which have failed to give us a peace worth having.

Even our spiritual authorities, with their half-hearted repudiation of such means of salvation (consenting to their use only if others use them first), are but half a head (and a small half at that) nearer to their right senses than the Secular State, in whose hands lies the making of them. And if no straight honest lead comes to us from the Church, where is that lead to come from?

I look back into History—to days when individual liberty was far less than it is today, and the Church far more oppressive and powerful, using compulsion and torture to bring God's kingdom on earth. And against its materialistic acceptance of wrong remedies stood then only a few—just a very small minority of the common people. But they won.

Let us re-make history. Liberty of conscience was won for us then not by the Church but by the common people. Let us try in this new great test for man's salvation to win it once more, with full faith that—for the right cause—after the few will come the many.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN

Longmeadow,
Street, Somerset.

Anglo-German exchange

THE eighteen 18-year-old German boys and girls of the highest class of the

Up and Doing!

HELP THE NEWSAGENT

A NEWSAGENT I visit fairly regularly often sells two dozen Peace News a week. He has a copy well displayed in a rack outside, and sales have been going up recently.

If you get Peace News, or other papers from a shop or bookstall, make sure that they have PN regularly on show. Arrangements are simple enough. Just ask the newsagent to order you an extra copy or two, display till the following Friday, when you'll pay if it has not been sold.

The newsagent will normally welcome this risk-free opportunity of increasing trade. It may sometimes cost you an extra 3d. or 6d. a week, but it's equally likely that the order will grow and your guarantee be no longer needed.

Make sure, by ordering this week, that the bigger and better Peace News, starting on April 28, is well to the front at your shop. **THIS IS IMPORTANT, PLEASE DO IT NOW.**

Sales will be more assured if one of our new window cards (15" x 10") or a full size poster is on show. Send for these free sales aids.

H.F.M.

Circulation last week, 9,000 copies.

Ten Years Ago

From Peace News, April 12, 1940

Following nine days' unsuccessful effort by the Army to break his resistance in a Glasgow military prison, Kenneth Makin, first conscientious objector to be court-martialled, is in Edinburgh Hospital with a nervous breakdown.

Soldiers stationed at Dalkeith cheered Makin on his return from prison under escort when they observed that he was still wearing civilian attire, because it was known that an attempt was to be made to force him into uniform.

Makin, we learn, repeatedly refused to do so, and in addition to several petty annoyances—such as having his tea served in a soapy shaving mug—he suffered three days' bread-and-water punishment in solitary confinement for this disobedience.

The old comparison between war and a house on fire was made by Mr. Maurice Healy, K.C., in a "postscript" to the BBC's 9 pm. news bulletin on Sunday.

In an endeavour to refute the pacifist case he argued that one does not stop to inquire how the house caught alight, but proceeds to put it out.

What bad logic from a lawyer! As a correspondent writes to point out, war is itself the house on fire; the pacifist's immediate concern is to quench it.

"Oberschule für die Walddörfer" in Hamburg-Volksdorf and their teacher would like it very much to come to England this summer, while an English class of pupils would come here in exchange. They begged me—a retired teacher and father to one of the boys—to help them and to take the necessary steps for this purpose. I would be very grateful for any assistance on your part.

The parents, school, and the Hamburg Education Branch (Senator Landahl, Professor Merck and Dr. Reimers) are very much interested in this project and agreed with a seven weeks' exchange. It is not only the aim to acquire living knowledge of country and people but we would like also to create a lasting connection between English and German schools as a contribution for the understanding of our nations. Therefore it would be most desirable to get relations with such English schools in which the spirit of reconciliation is cultivated.

We suggest beginning in the last week of June, that is one week before the beginning of the summer holidays, which generally last five weeks. It would seem to be advantageous if the German pupils, while living in the English families could have an opportunity to visit the English school for some time and then try to get other impressions by wandering or working in work camps such as IVSP. During or after this time we hope the English friends would spend some weeks in Germany.

Of course the above mentioned project depends on the times of the vacations as well as on the financial possibilities.

We are looking forward to your answer and should be grateful for any arrangement you may give us.

HELMUT HERTLING

Wulsdorfer Weg 77,
Hamburg-Volksdorf, Germany.

Is mass hysteria growing?

IT sometimes seems as if some contagious disease of insanity has got into the human brain and that all normal sensible values have been turned inside out. We all seem in a state of hysteria and rushing to our doom with maniacal glee. "Another war will liquidate the world," we scream. "Let's vote another ten millions for arms; let's hurl another taunt at Russia."

Most of the Press deliberately encourages the hysterical attitude of mind. Examine the Daily Mirror, for example, where headlines, panels and pictures are carefully mixed up and chopped about to create the maximum diffusion of interest. In any of the "popular" papers it is practically impossible to read straight down one piece without something else cutting in and distracting the attention. Everything is shouted from the pages simultaneously. If a dozen people shout at you upon different topics all at once you get confused and this is exactly what the national papers are doing to their millionfold readers. Intelligent judgment goes overboard.

And words have acquired new meanings. A little while ago I came downstairs, still half asleep, to sip my morning tea and take a first look at the papers. A headline caught my eye: "Peace Planes On The Way." My heart gave a jerk; I thought food was being flown into China. But I hadn't yet awakened to daytime realities: they were American bombers on the way to Europe.

I see that General Halder's booklet, first published in Germany under the Americans, explaining how Germany would have won the war had it been left to the Generals, has just been issued here under the title of "Hitler as War Lord." If Hitler had been an American I suppose he would have been a Peace Lord.

DOUGLAS ROGERS

PPU's Annual General Meeting

THE Annual General Meeting of the Peace Pledge Union will be held at the Beaver Hall (near the Mansion House), London, on Saturday and Sunday, April 29-30.

The meeting will commence at 2 p.m. with a welcome by the Chairman, and after the confirmation of the elections, Vera Brittain will give her Chairman's address. The remainder of the first session and the whole of the session from 6 to 8 p.m. will be devoted to a discussion of the various reports, concluding with the accounts for 1949 and the estimate of expenditure in 1950.

On Sunday, there will be an opportunity for Fellowship in Worship at 10 a.m., and from 10.30 to 12.45 each of the Steps to Peace commissions will make a progress report.

From 2 to 3.30 p.m. there will be a general discussion on Steps to Peace, and any emergency resolutions will be taken at 3.30. The AGM will close at 4 p.m.

Admission is confined to members of the PPU and will be by ticket only. Tickets can also be obtained for meals at the nearby British Restaurant. Application for tickets should be made as soon as possible, accompanied by the appropriate amount (admission ticket 1s., tea ticket 2s., lunch ticket 2s. 6d.), to Stuart Morris, Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1.

CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

Sybil Morrison's

CAMPAIGN COLUMN

The War Office today told of plans for the biggest series of Army shows London has seen for 11 years. Thousands of troops, in ceremonial full dress, will take part in the shows, which start next month and continue throughout the summer. Massed bands of famous regiments, horsemen from crack cavalry units, Wracs in their new bottle-green uniforms, displays of latest guns and tanks, are included in the programme.

—Evening Standard, March 27, 1950

Tricked out with trappings of martial pride,
Shall the art of murder be glorified—

—Sagittarius, New Statesman,
April 1, 1950

THE courage, self-sacrifice and gallantry of men and women in war has been sung, written and declaimed for hundreds of years; all the great Scottish laments have been written around losses in battle; all the stories of imperial conquest have been dressed in the raiment of romance; all naval conflicts, from Trafalgar to Dunkirk, have been glorified by imperishable tales of human invincibility.

That there are examples of great bravery and unselfishness in war is not to be disputed; that peace does not so easily lend itself to such opportunities is obvious: It is not so simple to dress up in romantic and colourful glory, the day to day strain and stress and hardihood of the coal miner, or the disciplined, dauntless fearlessness of the fireman, or the lifeboatman; these men are not fighting a human enemy, they are not destroying life and justifying murder in the name of freedom, liberty and God; they are only saving life and property, merely producing the means of life and warmth and light.

Yet there must be very few people in the world today who do not know, or at least have some idea, of the means by which the next war, if it comes, is to be fought. Wars are no longer waged between armies and navies, between men with weapons, in and out of trenches, in submarines, ships or aeroplanes; they are fought between whole communities, and the outcome may depend on how long women and children, old men and invalids can withstand mass bombing, mutilation, terror and death, without breaking.

"Dressing up" for terror-bombing

In the future this "terror-bombing" can be sustained by a few brave young men in aeroplanes, pressing a button, or perhaps by simply pulling a lever that releases a rocket carrying the atom or hydrogen bomb, designed not only to kill tens of thousands, but wound, burn and impregnate with frightful diseases, tens of thousands more.

It is a wonderful comment on the progress of man that, after two world wars, during which the blasting and blighting of helpless human beings has become more and more easily undertaken, that men should still behave like small children to whom "dressing up" is the measure of their infancy.

The bottle-green uniforms, the coats of mail and great boots, the feathered helmets and richly caparisoned horses will be cheered on their way through the streets of London by people who prefer not to remember what war has meant, or to visualise what it will mean in the future. Overhead there may be some squadrons of bombing planes roaring out their message of disaster, but the cheers will rise up just the same into the sky from which the devastation of the next war is to come, for the tragedy and futility of war will be drowned in the noise of massed bands, and disguised in the trappings of pantomime.

To "debunk" this lunatic escapism is no easy matter, but it must at least be attempted; there are campaign leaflets designed for use on such occasions and the volunteers for distributing them when the dates and times are known should send in their names to me at 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1. Watch this column for information.

Consultations by appointment

TOM KEELL WOLFE

Registered Naturopath

Graduate of Edinburgh School of

Natural Therapeutics

21 Promenade, Cheltenham, Glos.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS F.A.U. INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

STEEP, PETERSFIELD, HANTS.

OFFERS young religious and humanitarian

pacifist constructive service with its

small international membership, undertaking

agricultural, reconstructional and other

manual work in England and abroad.

CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE

ATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE